How to run the clubs Friday night net

Ed, W9PWG, made a statement that," It would be nice if someone else took over once and awhile to be net control." And a comment was made by several of our members that if we had a guide in front of us on how to run the net, we would be happy to try it.

The first step is very simple. Be yourself!!! MRAC runs an informal net, open to everyone, including DX stations and 10-10 request on 10 meters. As a net control operator, your job is to log everyone and establish order. But at the same time allow others to talk to one another. No one is expecting you to run the net exactly as your predecessor. Besides, it wouldn't be interesting if you did. Also, you may take over a net once it has started. Just ask the present control operator if you can take over.

The following is a guide to get you started.

#1 Be punctual. Always start the net on time or a few minutes early. 8:45P.M. on 10 meters.
#2 Be on frequency. Due to the next sun spot cycle being on the up swing and the possibility of the 10 meter band being open world wide, the MRAC Board has decided to put the Friday night net on 28.490 MHZ. instead of 28.400 starting 1/1/98 to reduce our interference to normal 10 meter activity while still being just inside the Tech portion of the band.
#3 Start with, " This is W9RH, W9RH, the Milwaukee Radio Amateur's Club Friday night net. This is (your call) acting as net control for W9RH. Is there anyone out there who would like to check in at this time? (Then wait for a response. Repeat the above if necessary.) Log all check-in's. There may be more than one calling. Be patient. Leave plenty of time between your transmissions for us old boys to get a word in edgewise.
#4 After you acknowledge those you have heard, then ask if there are any more check-in's.
#5 After you have logged all the initial check-in's, then acknowledge the first one on your list and allow him or her to tell you and the group what is new with them.

#6 After they have finished, acknowledge their transmission and then ask if there are any others who would like to check in. Log and acknowledge the new check-in's and then allow the next person at the top of your list to make their comments.
#7 Always remind everyone between transmissions that this is the W9RH net and that you are net control. Also state that the net is open to any Ham that may be listening.
#8 After every person has had a chance to make their comments or request to ask another station a direct question and you have checked for any late check-in's. Then start at the top of your log and give everyone a second chance to make further comments.
#9 You are in control of how long the net will go. Remember that a 2 meter net follows the 10 meter net, so leave yourself time to do this. In the past, the 2 meter net does not start until the 10 meter net is completed, even if it is way past 9P.M.
#10 After the net is over (again you decide when it's over) state over the air that this was the W9RH net and thank everyone for participating. Turn the frequency over to normal use.

The 2 meter net is conducted in the same fashion and is open to all Hams.

Finally!! Innovation is the key!! Be creative if you want. Your among friends.

Jim
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